

CLAIMS

1. A navigation apparatus comprising a map information storage section for storing map information acquired from a server apparatus,

5 wherein, if continuous map information from a start location to a destination location is not stored in the map information storage section, the navigation apparatus transmits the start location and the destination location to the server apparatus in order to acquire therefrom map information from the start location to the destination location and then store the acquired map information in the map information storage section.

10 2. The navigation apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the acquired map information is a map consisting of unit areas that covers a rectangular area of which two diagonal vertices coincide with the start and destination locations.

15 3. The navigation apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the acquired map information only contains map information that is not stored in the map information storage section.

20 4. The navigation apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the acquired map information contains map information that is not stored in the map information storage section and map information of which a version having an earlier creation date-time is stored in the map information storage section.

5. The navigation apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the navigation apparatus receives search data from the server apparatus and
acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired search condition.

5 6. The navigation apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the navigation apparatus receives date-time restricting data from the server
apparatus and acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired date-time condition.

7. The navigation apparatus of claim 1,
10 wherein the navigation apparatus receives time-restricting data and location data from
the server apparatus, then predicts based on the time-restricting data and the location data a
time at which a target location of route guiding will be reached, and then acquires from the
server apparatus guide data that fulfills the time-restricting data.

15 8. The navigation apparatus of one of claims 1 to 7,
wherein the navigation apparatus acquires a route retrieved by the server apparatus.

9. The navigation apparatus of one of claims 1 to 7,
wherein a route is searched for by using the map information stored in the map
20 information storage section, including map information acquired from the server apparatus.

10. A navigation apparatus comprising a map information storage section for
storing map information acquired from a server apparatus,
wherein, if continuous map information from a start location to a destination location

is stored in the map information storage section, the navigation apparatus transmits the start location and the destination location to the server apparatus in order to acquire therefrom map information consisting of unit areas that covers a rectangular area of which two diagonal vertices coincide with the start and destination locations, the navigation apparatus then storing
5 the acquired map information in the map information storage section.

11. The navigation apparatus of claim 10,
wherein the acquired map information only contains map information that is not stored
in the map information storage section.

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12. The navigation apparatus of claim 10,
wherein the acquired map information contains map information that is not stored in
the map information storage section and map information of which a version having an earlier
creation date-time is stored in the map information storage section.

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13. The navigation apparatus of claim 10,
wherein the navigation apparatus receives search data from the server apparatus and
acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired search condition.

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14. The navigation apparatus of claim 10,
wherein the navigation apparatus receives date-time restricting data from the server
apparatus and acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired date-time condition.

15. The navigation apparatus of claim 10,

wherein the navigation apparatus receives time-restricting data and location data from the server apparatus, then predicts based on the time-restricting data and the location data a time at which a target location of route guiding will be reached, and then acquires from the server apparatus guide data that fulfills the time-restricting data.

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16. The navigation apparatus of one of claims 10 to 15,
wherein the navigation apparatus acquires a route retrieved by the server apparatus.

17. The navigation apparatus of one of claims 10 to 15,
10 wherein a route is searched for by using the map information stored in the map
information storage section, including map information acquired from the server apparatus.

18. A navigation apparatus comprising a map information storage section for
storing map information acquired from a server apparatus,
15 wherein, if continuous map information from a start location to a destination location
is stored in the map information storage section, a route is searched for, and the navigation
apparatus acquires from the server apparatus map information consisting of unit areas that
covers an area including and neighboring the retrieved route, the navigation apparatus then
storing the acquired map information in the map information storage section

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19. The navigation apparatus of claim 18,
wherein the acquired map information only contains map information that is not stored
in the map information storage section.

20. The navigation apparatus of claim 18,

wherein the acquired map information contains map information that is not stored in the map information storage section and map information of which a version having an earlier creation date-time is stored in the map information storage section.

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21. The navigation apparatus of claim 18,

wherein the navigation apparatus receives search data from the server apparatus and acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired search condition.

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22. The navigation apparatus of claim 18,

wherein the navigation apparatus receives date-time restricting data from the server apparatus and acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired date-time condition.

23. The navigation apparatus of claim 18,

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wherein the navigation apparatus receives date-time restricting data from the server apparatus and acquires therefrom guide data that fulfills a desired date-time condition.

24. The navigation apparatus of one of claims 18 to 23,

wherein the navigation apparatus acquires a route retrieved by the server apparatus.

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25. The navigation apparatus of one of claims 18 to 23,

wherein a route is searched for by using the map information stored in the map information storage section, including map information acquired from the server apparatus.

26. A navigation apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving from a server apparatus one or more items of guide information containing search data and guide data;

inputting means for specifying a search condition; and

5 controlling means for permitting only guide data of whichever item of guide information fulfills the search condition specified by the inputting means to be received.

27. A navigation apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving from a server apparatus one or more items of guide

10 information containing date-time restricting data and guide data;

inputting means for specifying a date-time condition; and

controlling means for permitting only guide data of whichever item of guide information fulfills the date-time condition specified by the inputting means to be received.

15 28. A navigation apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving from a server apparatus one or more items of guide information containing time restricting data, location data, and guide data;

map information;

current location detecting means for detecting a current location;

20 controlling means for predicting, based on the time restricting data and location data received, a time at which a target location of route guiding will be reached, and for permitting only guide data of whichever item of guide information has time restricting data that fulfills the predicted time.

29. A server apparatus for transmitting map information to a navigation apparatus,
wherein, when the server apparatus receives from the navigation apparatus a start
location and a destination location, the server apparatus transmits to the navigation apparatus
map information from the start location to the destination location.

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30. A server apparatus for transmitting map information to a navigation apparatus,
wherein, when the server apparatus receives from the navigation apparatus a start
location and a destination location, the server apparatus transmits to the navigation apparatus
map information consisting of unit areas that covers a rectangular area of which two diagonal
10 vertices coincide with the start and destination locations.

31. A server apparatus for transmitting map information to a navigation apparatus,
wherein, when the navigation apparatus requests map information in a specified area
from the server apparatus, the server apparatus transmits the requested map information to the
15 navigation apparatus.